Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application. Claims 1-7 and 11-14 have been amended, Claims 10, 12-13 and 15-16 have been cancelled, and Claims 17-26 have been added.

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of embedding a signature in an audio-visual signal for authentication of said audio-visual signal, <u>said signal being comprised of a plurality of sequential frames,</u> ~~said audio-visual signal being interlaced or non-interlaced,~~ the method comprising the steps of<u>:</u>

storing a first portion of a frame of said audio-visual signal, thereby allowing for a reduced memory requirement relative to storing an entire frame of said audio-visual signal,

~~forming~~ <u>calculating</u> a signature based on ~~a~~ <u>the stored</u> first portion of ~~a~~ <u>said</u> frame of said audio-visual signal, ~~and~~

embedding the signature in <u>one of</u> said first portion and/or at least a second portion of said frame of said audio-visual signal.

2.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said <u>first and second portions of said frame of said audio-visual signal</u> ~~portions are~~ <u>respectively comprise</u> patterns of ~~consecutive~~ horizontal lines of <u>said frame of</u> said audio-visual

signal ~~patterns of consecutive horizontal lines having fewer lines than the entire audio-visual signal~~ .

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, whereby said steps of ~~forming~~ calculating and embedding are repeated until ~~a~~ said signature ~~has been~~ is embedded for all regions of said frame.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, whereby said first portion of said audio-visual signal ~~is a first field comprising~~ comprises a slice of at least one consecutive line of a plurality of ~~said~~ horizontal lines of said frame of said audio-visual signal and said second portion ~~is a second field comprising~~ comprises a slice of at least one consecutive horizontal line of said plurality of ~~said~~ horizontal lines of said frame of said audio-visual signal.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4 whereby said audio-visual signal is an interlaced signal and said first ~~field~~ portion comprises one of all even or all odd lines and said second ~~field~~ portion comprises all remaining odd or even lines not included in said first portion ~~all respectively remaining even or odd lines~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 whereby said audio-visual signal is a non-interlaced signal and said first and second portions ~~being~~ comprise consecutive slices of ~~at least one consecutive line of said lines~~ of said audio-visual

signal, wherein each of said consecutive slices are further comprised of at least one consecutive line of said frame ~~and said first portion and said slices comprising different consecutive lines of said audio-visual signal~~.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the embedded signature ~~step of embedding the signature~~ comprises ~~being characterised by embedding the signature as~~ a watermark.

8.   (Original) The method according to claim 7 whereby the watermark is embedded as a spread spectrum watermark.

9.   (Original) The method according to claim 7, whereby the watermark is embedded in a different portion of said frame than the portion of said frame for which said signature is generated.

10.   (Cancelled)

11.   (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 whereby the steps of ~~forming~~ calculating and embedding said signature are performed in real-time.

12-13 (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) <u>One or more</u> A computer readable <u>media</u> medium having stored thereon a plurality of computer-executable instructions <u>that when executed by a computer implement the method of claim 1</u> embedding a signature in an audio-visual signal for authentication of said audio-visual signal according to the method of claim 1 comprising a first program module forming a signature based on a first portion of a frame of said audio-visual signal, and a second program module embedding said signature in said first portion and/or at least a second portion of said frame of said audio-visual signal.

15– 16. (Cancelled)

17. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first and second portions are selected based on said audio-visual signal being one of an interlaced or a non-interlaced signal.

18. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein said audio-visual signal is said interlaced signal, said first field comprising an upper field of said frame of said audio-visual signal and said second field comprising a lower field of said frame of said audio-visual signal.

19.   (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein said upper and lower fields comprise patterns of horizontal lines of said audio-visual signal, each of said respective patterns of horizontal lines having fewer lines than the entire audio-visual signal.

20.   (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein said audio-visual signal is said non-interlaced signal, said first field comprising an upper half of said frame of said audio-visual signal and said second field comprises a lower half of said single frame.

21.   (New) The method according to claim 20, wherein each of said upper and lower halves of said frame comprise patterns of horizontal lines of said audio-visual signal, said respective patterns having fewer lines than the entire audio-visual signal.

22. (New) An apparatus for embedding a signature in an audio-visual signal for authentication of said audio-visual signal, said signal being comprised of a plurality of sequential frames, the apparatus comprising:

        means for storing a first portion of a frame of said audio-visual signal in a memory, thereby allowing for a reduced memory requirement relative to storing an entire frame of said audio-visual signal,

means for calculating a signature based on the stored first portion of said frame of said audio-visual signal, and

means for embedding the signature in one of said first portion of said frame or a second portion of said frame of said audio-visual signal.

23. (New) The apparatus of Claim 22, wherein said means for calculating and means for embedding are performed while said first portion is stored in said memory storage device.

24. (New) An apparatus according to claim 23, wherein said first and second portions comprise -patterns of horizontal lines of said audio-visual signal, said patterns having fewer lines than the entire audio-visual signal.

25. (New) The apparatus according to Claim 22, wherein said apparatus is a camera.

26. (New) The apparatus according to Claim 25, wherein the camera is selected from the group consisting of: a surveillance camera, a security camera, a digital video camera and a medical imaging camera.